

REMARKS

The Applicants request that claims 17-20 be added to the patent. These claims were added by amendment to the application on or about September 13, 1999. However, the patent issued without claims 17-20.

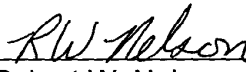
The Applicants note that a Notice of Allowability mailed on May 7, 2001 indicated that claims 1-20 were allowed. As stated above, the patent only issued with claims 1-16.

The Applicants seek to have the patent issued with all the claims allowed in the aforementioned Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,
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